

MINUTES

OF THE

SYNOD OF SOUTH CAROLINA,

AT THEIR

ANNUAL SESSIONS

AT

CHERAW, S. C.,

OCTOBER 29, 30, 31, and NOVEMBER 1, 1873.

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PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF SYNOD.

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# MINUTES.

CHERAW, S. C., Wednesday Evening, Oct. 29th, 1873.

The Synod of South Carolina met, according to adjournment, in the Presbyterian church at Cheraw, at 7½ o'clock p. m., and was opened with a sermon by the Moderator, Rev. J. O. Lindsay, on Rev. xvii. 14.

After prayer, the following members were enrolled :

## BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

### MINISTERS.

Wm. Banks,  
D. Harrison,  
H. R. Dickson,  
R. E. Cooper,  
James H. Douglas,  
J. Lowrie Wilson, (2)

### RULING ELDERS.

W. H. Stewart,  
W. Banks Robinson,  
J. M. Moore, (2)

### CHURCHES.

Unity.  
Pleasant Grove.  
Bethesda and Zion.

## CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

Joseph R. Wilson, D. D. Col. F. W. McMaster,  
John R. Dow, John McLeod,  
G. R. Brackett.  
F. L. Leeper.

First ch., Columbia.  
Edisto Island.  
Second ch., Charleston.  
James Island, John's  
Island and Wadmalaw.

## HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

W. Brearley,  
J. L. Wilson, D. D.  
S. H. Hay,  
J. A. Cousar,  
J. McDowell,  
J. L. Bartlett,  
E. H. Buist,  
W. S. Plumer, D. D.  
D. McQueen, D. D.  
W. W. Mills,  
N. W. Edmunds,  
A. R. Kennedy,

E. A. Law,  
H. C. Shaw,  
A. R. Workman,  
L. McLaurin,  
J. J. Conyers,  
H. Spann,  
A. McQueen,  
Dr. J. A. Mayes,  
L. P. Loring,  
J. A. Salters,  
T. C. Law,  
F. N. Wilson,

Darlington.  
Bishopville & Hephzibah  
Camden.  
Red Bluff.  
Manning and Brewington  
Concord.  
Cheraw.  
Salem (B. R.).  
Sumterville.  
Union.  
Centre Pt. and Aimwell.  
Indiant'n and White Oak

MINISTERS.	RULING ELDERS.	CHURCHES.
J. S. Cozby,	W. M. Scott,	Mt. Zion.
J. G. Richards, (2)	W. K. Thompson,	Liberty Hill.
R. Bradley, (2)	John R. Shaw,	Turkey C'k & Pine Tree.
H. M. Brearley, (2)	W. A. Crosland,	Bennettsville.
	E. Clark.	Pisgah.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

J. O. Lindsay,	S. Johnstone, Esq.	Aveleigh.
T. H. Law,	J. Wistar Simpson, Esq.	Laurens C. H.
J. L. Martin,	Gen. J. Gillam.	Rock. [way.
D. E. Frierson,	W. S. Sharpe, Esq.	Anderson C. H. and Mid-
	Dr. A. Walker.	Good Hope and Roberts.

## MINISTERS ABSENT AND CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED.

## BETHEL PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers absent.*—J. L. Watson, J. H. Saye, L. W. Curtis, Prof. J. M. Anderson,\* A. A. James, J. E. White, T. W. Erwin, James Douglas,\* J. S. Bailey, W. W. Ratchford.

*Churches not represented.*—Allison Creek, Beersheba, Bethel, Beth Shiloh, Bullock's Creek, Cane Creek, Carmel Hill, Catholic, Cedar Shoal, Concord, Douglas, Ebenezer, Enoree, Fairforest, Fishing Creek, Grindal Shoals, Harmony, Hopewell, Lancasterville, Mt. Olivet, Mt. Tabor, Olivet, Purity, Rock Hill, Salem, Shiloh, Six Mile Creek, Unionville, Waxhaw, Yorkville.

## CHARLESTON PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers absent.*—George Howe, D. D.,\* Edward Palmer,\* W. States Lee,\* I. S. K. Legare, T. H. Legare, J. L. Giradeau, D. D., C. S. Vedder,\* W. H. Adams,\* J. D. A. Brown.

*Churches not represented.*—Aiken, Barnwell, Beech Island, Central church, Charleston, Harmony, Mt. Pleasant, Orangeburg, McClellanville, Second church, Charleston, Stoney Creek, Summerville, Walterboro', Wilton, Zion, (Glebe street.)

## HARMONY PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers absent.*—W. M. Reid,\* P. Pierson, G. Morgan, D. D., W. A. Gregg,\* D. McDuffie, J. E. Dunlop,\* H. C. DuBose, W. T. Thompson, C. E. Chichester.

*Churches not represented.*—Beaver Creek, Beulah, Bishopville, Carolina, Cantire, Elon, Fairhope, Florence, Great Pedee, Little Pedee, Hermon, Hopewell, Horeb, Kingston, Lebanon, Lynchburg, Marion, Midway, Reedy Creek, Salem (L. R.), Scion, (Winnsboro.) Williamsburg.

## SOUTH CAROLINA PRESBYTERY.

*Ministers absent.*—J. L. Kennedy, W. Carlile,\* E. T. Buist, D. D.,\* J. B. Adger, D. D.,\* W. McWhorter, W. H. Davis, J. F. Gibert, Z. L. Holmes, C. B. Stewart, John McLees,\* Hugh McLees, J. B. Hillhouse,

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\*Excused for absence.

R. H. Reid, E. F. Hyde, R. A. Mickle, W. F. Pearson, J. R. Riley, W. P. Jacobs, J. McKittrick, A. P. Nicholson, L. K. Glasgow, H. Strong,\* J. S. Young, T. W. White, R. A. Fair,\* T. C. Ligon, Prof. James F. Latimer.

*Churches not represented.*—Abbeville, Antioch, Belton, Bethany, Bethel, Bethia, Carmel, Clinton, Duncan's Creek, Fairview, Friendship, Gilder's Creek, Greenville, Honea Path, Hopewell, Hopewell (Pendleton), Lebanon, Liberty Spring,\* Little Mountain, Lisbon, Lodi-mont, Midway, Mt. Bethel, Mt. Calvary, Mt. Tabor, Mt. Zion, Nazareth, Nazareth (B. D.), New Harmony, Ninety Six, North Pacolet, Pickens C. H., Providence, Retreat, Richland, Rocky River, Rocky Spring, Shady Grove, Smyrna, Spartanburg C. H., Upper Long Cane, Tugalo, Varennes, Walhalla, Warrior's Creek, Washington Street (Greenville), Williamston, Willington.

Rev. Joseph R. Wilson, D. D., of Charleston Presbytery, was chosen Moderator, and Col. F. W. McMaster, of Columbia, Temporary Clerk.

The Moderator appointed Rev. E. H. Buist and elder A. McQueen a Committee on Devotional Exercises.

On motion of Rev. Dr. J. Leighton Wilson, it was made the *second* order of the day for to-morrow morning, to consider the interests of the Theological Seminary at Columbia; the first order, by a resolution of last Synod, was to inquire "what can be done to prevent members of Synod from leaving before the business is finished."

On motion of Rev. E. H. Buist, Synod agreed to hold its daily sessions from 9½ a. m. until 1 p. m., and from 3 till 5 p. m.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises reported that Rev. Dr. Plumer preach to-morrow night, and that the last half hour of each day's session be spent in devotional exercises. Adopted.

Synod then adjourned, with prayer, to meet to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock.

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#### THURSDAY MORNING, 9½ o'clock, Oct. 30th.

The Synod met, and was opened with prayer by the Moderator. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

The Moderator then announced the appointment of the following Committees:

*On Bills and Overtures.*—Ministers, J. O. Lindsay, S. H. Hay, J. L. Martin, with elders E. A. Law, and J. W. Simpson.

*Judicial.*—Ministers, D. McQueen, D. D., D. E. Frierson, W. Banks, John R. Dow; elders W. S. Sharpe, W. H. Stewart, and J. A. Salters.

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\*Excused for absence.

*Narrative.*—*Ministers* G. R. Brackett, W. Brearley; *elders* A. McQueen and Henry Spann.

*Theological Seminary.*—*Ministers* Dr. J. L. Wilson, H. R. Dickson, A. R. Kennedy, F. L. Leeper, E. H. Buist; *elders* Silas Johnstone, Esq., and Dr. J. A. Mayes.

*Finance.*—*Elders* T. C. Law, Gen. J. Gillam, W. M. Scott, J. McLeod, and L. P. Loring.

*Minutes of the General Assembly.*—*Ministers* W. S. Plumer, D. D., R. E. Cooper, J. S. Cozby, N. W. Edmunds, and *elder* E. Clarke.

*Leave of Absence.*—*Ministers* James McDowell, J. A. Cousar, T. H. Law, and *elder* W. Banks Robinson.

*Presbyterial Records.*—*Bethel*—Rev. J. L. Bartlett, and *elder* L. McLaurin. *Charleston*—Rev. W. W. Mills and *elder* J. J. Conyers. *Harmony*—Rev. J. H. Douglas and *elder* Dr. A. Walker. *South Carolina*—Rev. D. Harrison and *elder* Henry C. Shaw.

On motion of Rev. T. H. Law, the minutes of the last Synod were not read, as they have been printed and distributed.

Presbyterial Narratives and Statistical Reports were then read. The Narratives were referred to the Committee on the Narrative, and the Statistical Reports to the Stated Clerk. The latter are as follows :

*Bethel Presbytery* consists of 16 ministers and 35 churches. It has under its care 8 licentiates and 5 candidates for the ministry. It has received under its care Tirzah church, situated in the south-west corner of Union County, N. C., and formerly under the care of the *First* Presbytery of the Associate Reformed Synod of the South. It has licensed R. D. Perry, J. W. Spratt, A. R. Miller, L. R. McCormick, J. G. Hall, and C. R. Hemphill as probationers for the gospel ministry. It has dissolved the pastoral relation between the Rev. J. E. White and the church of Purity. It has received under its care Mr. J. W. Query, a licentiate from Mecklenburg Presbytery.

D. HARRISON, Stated Clerk.

*Charleston Presbytery* consists of 13 ministers and 18 white churches and 4 colored. It has under its care 4 candidates for the ministry. During the year it has licensed Mr. S. D. Boggs to preach the gospel, and dismissed him to the Presbytery of West Hanover. It has also dismissed the Rev. Peter Gowan to the Presbytery of South Alabama, and licentiate C. E. Chichester to the Presbytery of Harmony. It has received the Rev. J. R. Dow from the Presbytery of Harmony, and installed him pastor of the Edisto Island church. It has also installed the Rev. F. L. Leeper pastor of the John's Island and Wadmalaw and the James Island churches. It has also lost by death the venerable Dr. Smyth, of Charleston.

W. H. ADAMS, Stated Clerk.

*Harmony Presbytery* is composed of 25 ministers, 43 churches, 2 licentiates, and 9 candidates. The Rev. James McDowell has been installed pastor of the Manning and Brewington churches. The Rev. N. W. Edmunds has been installed pastor of the Centre Point church, in connection with Aimwell, for one-half of his time. The Rev. Robert Bradley has been received from the Presbytery of Concord, N. C., and installed pastor of the Pine Tree and Turkey Creek churches. Licentiate C. E. Chichester has been received from the Presbytery of Charleston, and ordained and in-



stalled pastor of the Seion church, (Winnsboro.) The Rev. W. W. Mills has been installed pastor of the Salem (L. R.) church, in connection with Lebanon, for one-half his time. The Rev. James S. Cozby has been received from the Presbytery of Macon, Ga., and installed pastor of Mt. Zion church. The pastoral relation heretofore existing between the Rev. John R. Dow and the Salem (B. R.) church, between the Rev. James A. Cousar and the Reedy Creek church, between the Rev. W. W. Mills and the Horeb church, at their request, and with the concurrence of the respective churches, has been dissolved; and the Rev. John R. Dow dismissed to the Presbytery of Charleston. Licentiate Wilson James McKay has been received from the Presbytery of Fayetteville, N. C., and an adjourned meeting ordered to meet at the Salem (B. R.) church, to ordain and install him pastor of that church. Candidates S. Rhea Preston and R. Means DuBose have been licensed to preach the gospel. Sixteen ministers are actively engaged as pastors, 1 as a Foreign missionary, 3 as stated supplies, 1 as Professor in our Theological Seminary, 1 as Secretary of Sustentation and Foreign Missions, 2 are laid aside by the infirmities of age, and 1 by impaired health. *Twenty-two* churches are supplied with pastors, and 2 others soon will be; 8 have stated supplies, and 11 are without the stated means of grace. An effort will be made to secure an evangelist at once. *Twenty-nine* churches contributed to Sustentation, 27 to Foreign Missions, 27 to Education, 22 to Publication, and 15 to the Invalid Fund.

W. A. GREGG, Stated Clerk.

*South Carolina Presbytery* consists of 31 ministers and 55 churches, and has under its care 2 licentiates and 12 candidates for the ministry.

Rev. Hugh McLees has returned to this body the certificate dismissing him to Bethel Presbytery. Rev. James F. Latimer has been received from West Hanover Presbytery; Rev. Samuel Donnelly has been dismissed to Florida Presbytery; Mr. John G. Law, licentiate, has been received under our care by certificate from the Presbytery of Memphis. The pastoral relation between Rev. A. P. Nicholson and the churches of Providence and Rocky River has been dissolved, and Mr. Nicholson has been installed pastor of the churches of Rocky Spring, Friendship, and Lisbon. The pastoral relation between Rev. J. O. Lindsay and Upper Long Cane church has been dissolved. Messrs. A. L. Miller and J. R. Jacobs have been licensed by this body to preach the gospel.

ROBERT A. MICKLE, Stated Clerk.

The Presbyterial Records were then called for, and referred to their appropriate Committees for examination.

A communication was read from Rev. J. B. Adger, D. D., assigning feeble health as a reason for absence, and not being able to deliver, at the present sessions, the sermon directed by the last Synod on "The Pastoral Relation and Support of the Ministry." He was excused for absence, and requested to deliver the sermon at the next meeting of Synod.

Reports were then called for from the several Presbyterial Committees of Sustentation, respecting the recommendation of last Synod, to appoint sub-committees at each of their county seats, and sub-committees in each church, to look after this

work. It was ascertained that all the Presbyteries had virtually complied with this recommendation.

On the invitation of Aveleigh church, the Synod then resolved to hold its next annual meeting at Newberry C. H., beginning October 21st, 1874, at 7½ o'clock p. m.

Synod then took up the first order of the day, viz.: "What can be done to prevent members of Synod from leaving before its business is finished?" On motion of Rev. Dr. McQueen, the question was laid on the table.

The second order of the day was then, by consent, taken up, to wit, the subjects connected with the present pressing necessities of the Theological Seminary at Columbia.

Rev. Dr. Plumer then read a communication from the Board of Directors of the Seminary, and also the circular letter sent out by the chairman of the Faculty, Rev. Geo. Howe, D. D., concerning the necessity for prompt action in raising supplies for the support of the Seminary. Rev. Dr. Plumer, Rev. J. O. Lindsay, and Rev. Dr. J. L. Wilson, then addressed the Synod on the importance of completing the endowment, and supporting the institution. The matter was then, on motion of Dr. J. L. Wilson, postponed until to-morrow, to give time for more careful consideration.

The several Presbyteries were then requested to convene this afternoon, to consider the subjects connected with the Theological Seminary, and report to the Synod to-morrow.

The Rev. T. W. Hart, of the Baptist church, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

Rev. E. H. Buist, from the Committee on Devotional Exercises, reported that a meeting would be held to-morrow evening at 7½ o'clock, to consider the subject of Foreign Missions, when Dr. J. L. Wilson and others would address the meeting. The report was adopted.

After a recess of five minutes, Synod spent half an hour in devotional services; and then, on motion of Rev. E. H. Buist, adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9½ o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, Oct. 31st, 9½ o'clock.

Synod met and was opened with prayer. The minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Rev. Robert Bradley, John G. Richards, H. Martin Brearley, and elders Wm. K. Thompson, from Liberty Hill church, and R. Shaw, from Pine Tree church, Harmony Presbytery;



Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson and elder John M. Moore, from Bethesda church, Bethel Presbytery, came into Synod, assigned satisfactory reasons for tardiness, and were enrolled.

On motion of Rev. S. H. Hay, a committee was appointed to prepare a suitable tribute to the memory of the Rev. Thomas Smyth, D. D., who died since the last meeting of Synod. The Moderator appointed ministers S. H. Hay, J. R. Dow, G. R. Brackett, Wm. Banks, with elder Dr. A. Walker. Synod also directed this committee to address letters of sympathy to Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D., Rev. Wm. M. Reid, and Rev. E. Palmer.

The Synod, then, on motion of Rev. Dr. Plumer, unanimously adopted the following resolution :

*Resolved*, That this Synod has heard, with unfeigned pleasure, of the recent action of the Old School Synod of Missouri, wherein, by a cheerful majority, that body has voted to form a union with the Presbyterian Church in the United States. We embrace this opportunity to assure these dear and honored brethren of our high respect and warm esteem for them, especially in view of the great obloquy and suffering which they have endured for principles which ought to be dear to every true Presbyterian. We will welcome them into our fullest fellowship and to our hearty confidence.

On motion of Rev. Dr. J. Leighton Wilson, it was ordered that Rev. Richard McIlwaine, Treasurer of the Assembly's Committees of Sustentation and Foreign Missions, be appointed agent of this Synod, to collect the interest of the Blair legacy, as it accrues, for the use of this Synod, and that the Stated Clerk do notify Mr. McIlwaine of this appointment.

The report of the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly was read and re-committed; and on motion of Rev. Dr. Plumer, Rev. J. R. Dow, J. L. Martin, and J. McDowell were added to the Committee.

The Rev. A. Coke Smith, of the Methodist church at this place, being present, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

A letter was read from Col. T. C. Perrin, President of the Synod's "Society for the Relief of Indigent and Deceased Ministers and their Families," stating his inability to attend the present meeting of Synod, and represent the interest of this Society.

On motion of Rev. E. H. Buist, Synod expressed its regret at his providential absence, and conveyed to him and his co-workers the assurance of its sympathies with the aim of the Relief Society, trusting that God may crown the Society with abundant success.

The Committees appointed to examine the Presbyterian Re-

cords, reported that they had examined these records, and found them correct. Their reports were approved.

Rev. Dr. Plumer offered the following resolution, which was *unanimously* adopted, to wit :

*Resolved*, That this Synod hails with pleasure the action of our General Assembly, contemplating closer relations with the General Synod of the Reformed (Dutch) Church of America, and trusts that no untoward event will hinder the meeting of the Committees severally appointed for that purpose.

The Committee on the Theological Seminary then presented a report, which was fully discussed, and unanimously adopted, as follows :

Whereas, we recognise and gratefully acknowledge the claims of the Columbia Theological Seminary upon our sympathy and aid, by reason of what it *has done* and is *now doing* for the glory of God and the good of his Church in our midst, in our own country, and in foreign lands : and whereas it has come to the knowledge of this Synod, that this long venerated and much loved institution, in which we claim the privilege of a special interest, is sorely straitened in its financial support, whereby great inconvenience, and even much sacrifice, if not real suffering, is imposed upon the devoted men who have been placed there by the Church to train and educate our future ministers : and whereas we do confidently believe that the churches within our bounds have lost *not a whit* of their long and well attested affection for this sacred institution, but that they only need to be informed and made sensible of the pressing emergency which now seriously threatens its usefulness ; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, 1. That this Synod does most heartily approve the "Circular Letter" recently issued by the Rev. Dr. George Howe, and that said letter be republished and sent down to all our churches, as expressing the sense of this body respecting the interests and claims of our Seminary.

2. That this Synod is in most cordial sympathy with the Board of Directors of the Seminary, in their effort to *re-endow* the institution, and so to place it upon a permanent and solid basis ; and that this body does most warmly and confidently commend their agent for endowment, the Rev. J. O. Lindsay, to the churches within their bounds.

3. That it is the sense of this Synod, after a careful investigation, that at least twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500) be raised by our churches, as our rightful part of the whole amount necessary to meet the current expenses of the Seminary for the present scholastic year ; and that this amount be apportioned among the Presbyteries as follows : Bethel Presbytery, \$450 ; Charleston Presbytery, \$450 ; Harmony Presbytery, \$800 ; South Carolina Presbytery, \$800.

4. That there be appointed one minister in each Presbytery, to whom shall be specially intrusted the duty of raising these several amounts in whatever way may seem to them most effective, by the first of February, 1874, at furthest, or as soon as possible thereafter, and that the following persons be appointed for the several Presbyteries : Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson, for Bethel ; Rev. John R. Dow, for Charleston ; Rev. A. R. Kennedy, for Harmony ; Rev. J. O. Lindsay, for South Carolina Presbytery.

5. That these Presbyterial appointees shall be expected to use all possi-

ble diligence in this work, and to report to the next Synod the manner and results of their efforts.

6. That we earnestly recommend to the pastors and sessions of the churches within our bounds, the selection of some suitable person, or persons, in each church, who shall be encouraged and stimulated to solicit, collect, and forward contributions of provisions or money, whenever preferred, to the Rev. Dr. William S. Plumer, for the benefit of the Students' Boarding Hall.

After half an hour spent in devotional services, Synod took a recess until  $3\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock p. m.

The Synod reassembled at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  p. m.

Prayer by Silas Johnstone, Esq.

Reports were called for from the several Presbyteries, on the Evangelistic Work. Bethel, Harmony, and South Carolina, reported that they are carrying out the scheme recommended by the General Assembly. Charleston Presbytery reported that collections are made under order of the Assembly; but the Presbytery thus far acts, in its own bounds, upon its own scheme.

On motion of Rev. E. H. Buist, a committee was appointed to report to-morrow evening on the subject of Evangelisation. Rev. T. H. Law, Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson, and elder J. W. Simpson, were appointed on this Committee.

Dr. Plumer, then, from the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, presented a report, which was placed on the docket.

The Committee on Religious Exercises presented the following report, which was adopted, viz.:

Rev. D. E. Frierson preach Saturday at 11 o'clock a. m., and Rev. J. S. Cozby Saturday night at  $7\frac{1}{2}$  p. m.

#### SABBATH SERVICES.

*Presbyterian Church.*—Rev. J. R. Wilson, D. D., preach at  $10\frac{1}{2}$  a. m.; Rev. J. R. Dow and W. Banks, conduct communion services; Synodical collection for the Theological Seminary; Dr. Plumer and Rev. J. Lowrie Wilson address the Sabbath-schools in the *afternoon*; Rev. G. R. Brackett preach at night.

*Baptist Church.*—Rev. F. L. Leeper, forenoon.

*Methodist Church.*—Rev. T. H. Law, forenoon; Rev. A. R. Kennedy, afternoon.

Synod then recessed from business until  $7\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock p. m.

Synod was convened after recess; and after prayer, was addressed on the subject of Foreign Missions by Dr. J. Leighton Wilson, Rev. D. E. Frierson, Rev. H. R. Dickson, and Rev. Dr. Plumer. Synod then adjourned with prayer, to meet to-morrow morning at  $9\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING, November 1st, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock.

Synod met at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  o'clock a. m., and was opened with prayer.

The Minutes of yesterday were read, amended, and approved.

The Stated Clerk made satisfactory explanation in reference to the failure of the Minutes of last Synod and its overture in relation to the organisation of churches among the freedmen to be at the meeting of the last General Assembly.

The Treasurer of Synod, Rev. Wm. Banks, presented the following report, which was approved, viz. :

The amounts, by the last Synod assessed to the several Presbyteries, have been paid in as follows :

By Bethel and Charleston, each, in full, \$42.00,	-	\$84 00	
Harmony, in full, \$63, South Carolina, \$60,	-	123 00	
		<hr/>	\$207 00
Paid balance due Treasurer, as per last report,	-	44 74	
Paid salary Stated Clerk,	-	100 00	
Paid for printing and distributing 800 copies of Minutes of last Synod,	-	70 26	
		<hr/>	\$215 00
Leaving a balance due Treasurer at this time, of	-		8 00

Synod then took up the consideration of the subject of ordaining ministers and organising churches among our colored people. Rev. J. O. Lindsay moved that the overture of last Synod, asking the Assembly to modify its plan, be reaffirmed, and sent up to the next General Assembly. After considerable discussion, the motion prevailed.

Synod then took recess until 3 o'clock p. m.

After recess Synod assembled at 3 p. m., and came to order.

The Committee on Finance, through Col. T. C. Law, presented the following report, which was adopted, viz. :

In conference with the Stated Clerk and Treasurer of Synod, we find that the Presbyterial assessments ordered by the last Synod to meet contingent expenses, printing the Minutes and the Stated Clerk's salary, have been paid in, as indicated in his report.

To meet the estimated expenses of the ensuing Synodical year, we recommend that \$200 be contributed by the Presbyteries, according to the following apportionment, viz. : Bethel and Charleston Presbyteries, each, \$40.00; Harmony and South Carolina Presbyteries, each, \$60. We also recommend that 1,000 copies of the Minutes of the present meeting of Synod be printed and distributed.

The report of the Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly was then taken up from the docket, and amended and adopted, as follows :



The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly, report that, our Presbyteries having already considered the various matters referred to them by the Assembly, we find nothing needing the action of Synod, except that we urge upon our churches their compliance with the recommendation of the Assembly that they observe *the last Thursday* in February next as a day of public prayer for colleges and other institutions of learning, and that the *week* beginning on this day be especially devoted to prayer by all of our people for this object; and, also, that they take up the collection for Publication on *the first Sabbath* in December as recommended by the Assembly,

The Committee on Leave of Absence presented the following report, which was approved, viz.:

The Committee on Leave of Absence report that the following members are excused for non-attendance upon the present meeting, besides those who have already been excused by Synod, viz.: Ministers: George Howe, D. D., W. A. Gregg, R. A. Fair, Prof. J. M. Anderson, W. H. Adams, H. Strong, C. S. Vedder, J. E. Dunlop; and Elder W. Leaman, from Liberty Spring church, in South Carolina Presbytery.

Leave of absence has been granted the following members after Friday: Ministers: J. Leighton Wilson, D. D., D. McQueen, D. D., R. E. Cooper, W. Brearley, J. L. Bartlett. Elders: E. A. Law, L. P. Loring, W. S. Sharpe, H. G. Shaw; and after the morning session of Saturday, Elders E. C. Clark and J. J. Conyers.

Rev. T. H. Law, from the Committee on Evangelistic Labor, presented a report, which was adopted, as follows:

The Synod (of South Carolina) would call the special attention of the Presbyteries under its control to the fact that after the first day of January next, according to the direction of the last General Assembly, evangelistic labor will be conducted as a separate department of the Church's work.

Although for three years past a special and distinct collection has been appointed for this object, it has been treated only as a part of the Sustentation scheme, and has been conducted in connection with that. But after this year it is to stand on its own basis, the contributions to it to be kept distinct, and the appropriations for it, by the Assembly's Committee, to be made only out of the funds thus contributed. It is most important, therefore, that our churches all contribute to this specific object, the day appointed for which by the General Assembly and this Synod is the *first Sabbath* in September.

2. The Synod would urge the several Presbyteries to engage directly, and as largely as practicable, in evangelistic work in their own bounds. Many of our feeble and vacant churches require this immediate care and oversight of a Presbyterian evangelist; and in the rapid changes which are occurring amongst us, many promising points are opening up which we should be ready at once to enter and possess.

3. The Synod would most earnestly recommend and advise all the Presbyteries in the conducting of this work, to co-operate fully with the Assembly's plan. Thus only, it is believed, can we truly fulfil the scriptural principle which enters so essentially into our ecclesiastical system, that the strong ought to aid the weak, in order "that there may be equality." Thus only can we hope to bring this department of the Church's work into full



activity and efficiency ; and by this plan, too, as facts abundantly prove, most important advantages accrue to the strong as well as the weak.

Rev. S. H. Hay, from the Committee appointed to prepare a minute touching the death of Rev. Thomas Smyth, D. D., presented the following report, which was adopted :

The Synod of South Carolina has been called to mourn, since its last stated session, the removal of our beloved brother, the Rev. Thomas Smyth, D. D., from this scene of his earthly labors to his heavenly rest. He died in the city of Charleston on the 20th of August, 1873, in the 66th year of his age.

Born in Belfast on the 14th of June, 1808, of Scotch and English ancestry, and devoted to the ministry by his pious mother from his birth, he entered the college in his native city in 1827 and received its highest honors. During the last year of his studies there, he became united with Christ as a Saviour ; and called, as he believed, to the work of the ministry, he removed to Highbury College, London, where he pursued the studies preparatory to that sacred office with his accustomed ardor. In the fall of 1830 his parents removed to this country, and he entered the Senior Class at Princeton, where these studies were completed. He was ordained the following year by the Presbytery of Newark as an evangelist, with a view to missionary work in Florida, and soon after came to Charleston, under the recommendations of Drs. Alexander and Miller, as a supply of the Second Presbyterian church.

In November, 1832, he became a member of Charleston Union Presbytery ; but although he was called to the pastorate of the Second church in April of that year, he held this call under consideration, doubtful of his health, which was never firm, until December, 1834, on the 17th of which month his installation took place.

Since this time, during the various fortunes of our church and country, through the stormy scenes of ecclesiastical and theological debate, and the still severer trials of civil strife, his large and Christian heart has been true alike to his ancestral Church and to the land of his adoption.

We do not claim for our departed brother absolute perfection. This belongs to no child of God in this his militant state. But now all the asperities of discussion and debate are forever over. And with a mind of intense activity and an unconquered will, which bore up his enfeebled frame beyond the expectation of all his friends, all will accord to him a large and forgiving heart, full of schemes of Christian benevolence and activity, pursued with almost unequalled endurance and energy till the end of life.

An ardent student himself, he was a friend of education, of colleges and schools, especially of seminaries of sacred learning, whose libraries and endowments he sought to enlarge.

He was a friend of the young student also, and especially if he sought the gospel ministry under a manifest call from God.

Had Providence so willed, and he had not suffered, in common with others, the impoverishments of a cruel war, he would have left behind him more than he has been able to do, enduring monuments of his zeal in this sacred cause.

He would have offered himself as a missionary in his early days, had not enfeebled health prevented his personal labors on foreign shores. But the spirit of missions did not forsake him. He was their prominent representative for years by his voice and pen, both in Presbytery and Synod.

Of the productions of his pen we will not speak ; but his earlier contemporaries will remember the inspiring tones in which he was wont, in the excitement of debate, with a wonderful affluence of diction, to give utterance to the thoughts and emotions of his soul, the whole man transformed, his eye full of expression, his form taller seemingly than ever before. But those attractive powers were at length impaired by sudden disease, which rendered utterance imperfect, which at one time made him even forget the language his mother taught him, till by practice he regained it, and his palsied tongue was loosed and became eloquent again.

His spirit has left the earthly tabernacle which confined it. It has been unclothed that it might enter the house not made with hands, and await the resurrection morning, when, with a body strong in power, glorious and spiritual, it shall be still serving and praising our ascended Lord.

For more than forty years has he gone in and out before us, for the first half of this time in the possession of his corporeal powers, for the last half crippled with disease, but still unconquered, till he yielded to the power of death.

Let us remember that our own removal will not be long delayed. The evening shades with some are drawing on. Let us redeem the time in these days of evil, and like our departed brother, perform our work with conscientious vigor while the daylight last. So shall our lives be filled with deeds of usefulness, and our end be peace.

The same Committee also presented letters of sympathy for Rev. W. M. Reid, Rev. Edward Palmer, and Rev. E. T. Buist, D. D., which were approved and ordered to be forwarded.

Synod then recessed from business until after public worship to-night.

After public worship, Synod came to order.

The narrative was then read by the Chairman of the Committee, Rev. G. R. Brackett, and approved, as follows :

The Committee on the Narrative beg leave to submit the following report :

Looking over the whole extent of our territory, we observe with grateful hearts, many a field which the Lord hath blessed and made green and fruitful by the refreshing showers of his grace.

The word of the Lord hath not returned unto him void, but in many instances has accomplished that whereunto it was sent. Much seed has fallen into good ground, and "brought forth some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred fold." A few churches have received large accessions. One Presbytery reports a hundred, another that an average of six has been added to each church. There has been an increase of faithful laborers, and the number of those who "stir themselves up to take hold upon God" has been greatly multiplied. In Charleston, the week of prayer was followed by a union prayer-meeting of all denominations, which has continued without interruption, and we trust the fires will not soon be suffered to die out upon this common altar. A great blessing has attended these united supplications, which our own Church has largely shared. A Young Men's prayer-meeting has also been established in Columbia, which has proved a valuable auxiliary to the regular means of grace. Prayer-meetings have been multiplied throughout all our Presbyteries, and are attended with growing interest.

There is an evident increase of evangelistic zeal and activity. Many weak churches have, by uniting together, become strong enough to be self-supporting; and most of our churches have, by the help of pastors, stated supplies, licentiates, and candidates, enjoyed the means of grace to a much larger extent than heretofore.

The reports of large and flourishing Sabbath-schools, and of increasing interest in this important department of Church labor, are especially encouraging.

There are cheering tokens of growth in the grace of giving, manifested in larger contributions, and a more cheerful and cordial liberality, and a more systematic benevolence.

The spiritual condition of the Theological Seminary, which is located within the bounds of our Synod, is healthful and vigorous. The excellent and earnest spirit of piety which pervades this beloved and venerable "school of the prophets," promises well for the future efficiency of our candidates for the ministry. Most of our students are actively and zealously engaged every Sabbath in missionary labors among the destitute in their vicinity, which, in some instances, have been signally blessed.

There has been no apparent progress in our work among the colored people. No new churches have been organized, and there have been but few additions to those already existing; nor do our old churches exhibit their former spiritual life. But while we rejoice in fresh tokens of divine favor, and record with devout thanksgiving the measure of success which has attended our efforts to advance the Redeemer's kingdom, we cannot look upon the dry and desert places that are languishing for lack of cultivation; upon the stagnant and sickly pools of error, vice, and worldliness exhaling a deadly miasma that is poisoning and polluting the very atmosphere of the Church, without humiliation and sorrow. There are unmistakable signs that, in many places, the kingdom of Satan is also advancing; that he has agents and co-laborers more busy, active, and persistent, than the majority of our Master's servants. "But more are they that are with us than those that are against us;" so that we have never any grounds for dismay or discouragement, so long as we emulate the zeal of our spiritual foes.

On motion of Rev. T. H. Law, Synod passed the following vote of thanks, viz.:

*Resolved*, 1. That the Synod returns its sincere thanks to the families of this congregation and community for the kind and abundant hospitality extended to them during the sessions of this body; and that the pastor of the Cheraw church be requested to announce the same in the way he may judge best.

2. That its thanks be tendered also to the several Railroad Companies which have extended courtesies to its members by reduced rates of travelling.

The minutes of this day were then read and approved.

Synod then, after singing and prayer, adjourned to meet at Newberry C. H., S. C., October 21st, 1874, at 7½ o'clock, p. m.

JOSEPH R. WILSON, D. D., *Moderator*.

WM. BANKS, *Stated Clerk*,

*Fort Mill P. O., York Co., S. C.*